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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/992,264	11/26/2001	Jocelyn Labbe	D/A1396	7696
27885	7590	05/24/2006	EXAMINER	
FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN, MINNICH & MCKEE, LLP 1100 SUPERIOR AVENUE, SEVENTH FLOOR CLEVELAND, OH 44114			DIXON, THOMAS A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3639	

DATE MAILED: 05/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/992,264

Applicant(s)

LABBE ET AL.

Examiner

Thomas A. Dixon

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,10,13-18 and 27-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 27-31 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1,13,14-18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The amendment submitted on 18 February 2006 has been considered by the examiner.

### ***Claim Objections***

2. Claims 1, 10, 13, 14 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claims 1 and 14 recite the limitation "User ID " the acronym ID should be spelled out the first time it occurs.

Claim 10 recites the limitation "a time slot " in line 21 is.

Claim 13 recites the limitation "past present and future time slots reservation" it appears that a comma should be between past and present and "time slots reservation" may be better stated as "time slot reservations"

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1, 10, 13, 14 would be allowable for the following reasons when the claim objections are overcome.
4. Claims 2, 27 are allowable for the following reasons.
5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

As per Claim 1.

Okuda et al (4,708,461), Kawamura et al (5,587,799), Matsumoto et al (5,754,744), Brown et al (2005/0075214), Adachi (2001/0015817) and Login et al (5,799,281) in view of Courter et al alone or in combination do not disclose or fairly teach:

- a. a machine timeslot reservation subsystem including storage means for storing time slot reservation information, a calendar, and time clock information, time

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slot status information, intended user ID code information and machine control information for a user operated group machine (UOGM);

d. means for operating said UOGM to run said received order quantity when said current clock time shows no reserved time slots for said UOGM;

e. user ID verification means for receiving and processing an actual user ID code against said intended user ID code, when said clock time corresponds to a reserved time slot;

f. programmed means for enabling operation of said UOGM to run said received order quantity when said actual user ID code matches said intended user ID code.

As per Claim 2.

Okuda et al (4,708,461), Kawamura et al (5,587,799), Matsumoto et al (5,754,744), Brown et al (2005/0075214), Adachi (2001/0015817) and Login et al (5,799,281) in view of Courter et al alone or in combination do not disclose or fairly teach:

displaying selectable date and time calendar information on the screen comprises displaying only current and future date and time calendar information for a user operated group machine.

As per Claim 10.

Okuda et al (4,708,461), Kawamura et al (5,587,799), Matsumoto et al (5,754,744), Brown et al (2005/0075214), Adachi (2001/0015817) and Login et al (5,799,281) in view of Courter et al alone or in combination do not disclose or fairly teach:

displaying interactive selectable time slot symbols includes displaying time slot symbols that open for receiving TSR information only when a time lot corresponding to a time slot division for such symbol is an open time slot for a user operated group machine.

As per Claim 13.

Okuda et al (4,708,461), Kawamura et al (5,587,799), Matsumoto et al (5,754,744), Brown et al (2005/0075214), Adachi (2001/0015817) and Login et al (5,799,281) in view of Courter et al alone or in combination do not disclose or fairly teach:

displaying and retaining a record of past, present and future time slot reservations for each user operated group machine.

As per Claim 14.

Okuda et al (4,708,461), Kawamura et al (5,587,799), Matsumoto et al (5,754,744), Brown et al (2005/0075214), Adachi (2001/0015817) and Login et al (5,799,281) in view of Courter et al alone or in combination do not disclose or fairly teach:

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As per Claim 27.

Okuda et al (4,708,461), Kawamura et al (5,587,799), Matsumoto et al (5,754,744), Brown et al (2005/0075214), Adachi (2001/0015817) and Login et al (5,799,281) in view of Courter et al alone or in combination do not disclose or fairly teach:

an alerting means communicating with said controller assembly for alerting an intended user of a reserved time slot;

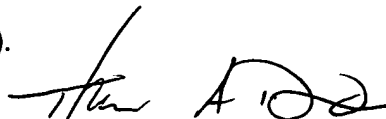
the alerting means for the user operated group machine comprises a light tower including a pole and a light source having an on state and an off state.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas A. Dixon whose telephone number is (571) 272-6803. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 6:30 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on (571) 272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Thomas A. Dixon  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3639

May 06